

Former Laurel School District Employee Arrested for Felony Theft

Laurel, DE- Delaware State Police arrested **Wade L. Bryan, 40, of Laurel**, on felony theft charges.

Wade Bryan was employed as the school secretary at North Laurel Elementary School. During his employment with the school in the summer and fall of 2021, he was responsible for the incoming funds for the school's pizza fundraiser and Pre-K tuition. When incoming checks from the fundraiser hadn't cleared parents' bank accounts, the school discovered Wade failed to make any deposits. In addition, he improperly gave the fundraising company the district's bank account information to conduct an automatic withdrawal for payment for the fundraiser. Once district officials entered the school safe, they discovered all of the cash proceeds from the fundraiser were missing, and the checks were never deposited. District Officials conducted an internal audit for other financial activity Wade was responsible for and discovered he had taken incoming cash proceeds from the Pre-K tuition program and only deposited incoming checks to the district's bank account. In total, \$3,198.50 cash from the fundraiser and \$1,775.00 from the Pre-K tuition funds were stolen.

On February 14, 2022, Wade Bryan was indicted on two counts of Theft Over \$1,500 (Felony) and turned himself in. He was released on his own recognizance.

Any questions regarding Wade Bryan's employment with North Laurel Elementary School should be directed to Laurel School District.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Heather Pepper

Released:022222 0930

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